

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of January 23, 2006**

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Chair Donald Wallace, Selectmen Melvin Adams, Richard Greenslit, Michael Demasi, and Roger LeClair. Also present were Manager Nanci Allard, Clerk Samantha Baraw, Accounting Manager Laurie Baroffio, Zoning Administrator Stephen Hatch, George Goodrich III (Trans-Video), Everett Greenslit, and Warren Hagy.

Chair Wallace called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. **January 9, 2006 (Regular Meeting).** Motion by Selectman LeClair, seconded by Selectman Greenslit, to approve the minutes. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

III. **APPROVAL OF BILLS**

- a. **Warrant #15-06.** Motion by Selectman Adams, seconded by Selectman Demasi, to approve the Warrant #15-06 in the amount of \$43,290.25. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**
- b. **Warrant #15-06A.** Motion by Selectman Demasi, seconded by Selectman LeClair, to approve the Warrant #15-06A in the amount of \$6,155.57. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

IV. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- a. **Everett Greenslit: Questions on Warrant #12-06C (12/12/05 Meeting).** Mr. Greenslit questioned the refund check ((property tax appeal fee) that was issued to the Grays. Chair Wallace stated that the refund check was not issued until the court decision was issued. Mr. Greenslit questioned why it took so long. Mr. Greenslit also asked why it was 12-06C; there was no A or B on the agenda. Accounting Manager Baroffio explained that A or B could have been on the Village warrants; they're not numbered separately as such.

V. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

- a. **Municipal Computer Software/Hardware Upgrade.** There were two separate items that were handed out regarding this item. There was sum analysis between MUNIS, Harris, and some costs involved. There is a spreadsheet attached. There was a unanimous decision by the staff that conducted the comparison to recommend the MUNIS system. There is money in the Town CIP budget; the balance is to be approved at the annual Town Meeting on March 7, 2006. Motion by Selectman Greenslit, seconded by Selectman Demasi, to authorize the expend no more than \$41,000 from the Town General CIP fund, to include the software by MUNIS, hardware, and appropriate hardware upgrades and labor. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

- b. **Six-Month Financial Statements.** There was an unexpected problem with a defibrillator for the Ambulance Service that pushed them a little over budget.
- c. **Status Reports: Various Projects:**
 - a. **CVRR Property Purchase.** The Vermont State Housing Authority (VSHA) has received approval so it should not be much longer to finalize the purchase.
 - b. **Proposed Work Camp.** Manager Allard has a preliminary meeting with the State set up to discuss this possibility.

VI. SELECTBOARD

- a. **Approval of 2006 Town Meeting Warning:** There is a request to add the Green Mountain Youth Symphony for \$200. There's a request from Steve Jeffery, VLCT, to add on "Shall the voters instruct our state representatives and senators to oppose the use of funds..., etc (to be obtained from email from Steve Jeffery). The Board can approve the warning in the package, or the revised warning to include the request from GMYS, though it does not include the request from VLCT. Motion by Selectman LeClair, seconded by Selectman Adams, to approve the warning with \$200 for GMYS. **Motion passed 3-2-0, Chair Wallace and Selectman Demasi in opposition.** Regarding the request from the VLCT, Selectman Greenslit opposes this because he would like to see this brought up through the School Board. Motion by Selectman Demasi, seconded by Selectman LeClair, to revise the warning to include the proposed article from VLCT regarding the taxes and education fund. Selectman Demasi approves this because he would like to send a message to the State about this issue. Selectman Adams will abstain because he feels a conflict of interest due to his position with the Agency of Transportation. **Motion defeated 2-2-1, with Chair Wallace and Selectman Greenslit voting in opposition and Selectman Adams abstaining.**
- b. **Proposed Revisions to Zoning Regulations:** Chair Wallace asked the Board's thoughts on the possible revision the definition of "family" to change five (5) unrelated persons to three (3) unrelated people. No motion made and the definition will remain the same. Chair Wallace asked the Board's thoughts on the revision of Section 401 regarding home occupation and the remove of the words "or an accessory buildings." Selectman LeClair would like to clarify the definition of accessory building; can we regulate the amount of space or the percentage of space? Zoning Administrator Hatch said this would be best addressed through Home Occupation permits, not through this forum. There was no motion made; Section 401 will remain the same. The Planning Commission acknowledged at the last meeting that they understood they had more work to do after the acceptance of this plan. The Selectboard set the date for the next Public Hearing for Monday, February 13, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the Brown Public Library. The regular Selectboard meeting will follow immediately afterwards.

- c. **Road Standards Resolution:** The Board signed the Roads Standards Resolution. The content had been approved at the last regular meeting.
- d. **Status Reports: Various Projects:**
 - a. **Environmental Review Process Certificate.** This is for the grant administration for the housing grant for the three towns, for which Northfield is the lead. Chair Wallace has been asked to sign this on behalf of the Town. Motion by Selectman Demasi, seconded by Selectman Greenslit, to authorize the Chair to sign the certificate on behalf of the Town. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Non-agenda items:

- a. **Everett Greenslit.** Mr. Greenslit thanked Manager Allard for her prompt response regarding the Grays' refund check and documents attached. He accepts her recommendation that a formal investigation is not needed at this time but may wish to revisit this matter in the future.
- b. **Warren Hagy.** Mr. Hagy would like to know if anyone will pass the previously discussed information from VLCT to the Schoolboard? Selectman LeClair will pass the information on tomorrow.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Selectman Greenslit, seconded by Selectman Demasi, to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters. **Motion passed 5-0-0.**

The Board went into executive session at 8:07 p.m.

Selectman Greenslit left the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Motion by Selectman LeClair, seconded by Selectman Demasi, to come out of executive session. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

The Board came out of executive session at 8:25 p.m. No action was taken.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Selectman Demasi, seconded by Selectman LeClair, to adjourn the meeting. **Motion passed 4-0-0.**

The Board adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha H. Baraw

Samantha H. Baraw, Clerk

These minutes are subject to approval at the next scheduled meeting.